



Phoenix Police Department
Public Affairs Bureau
620 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003



MEDIA ADVISORY

Date/Time: April 29, 2023 at 10:42 a.m.
Incident: 2023-643824
Location: 6500 East Libby Street
Victim: Lauren Heike, 29-years-old, deceased
Suspect: Zion William Teasley, 22-year-old, MCSO Booking T835700

UPDATE: May 5, 2023

Last night, on May 4, 2023 a man was taken into custody in connection to the murder case of Lauren Heike. He has been identified as 22-year-old Zion William Teasley. Teasley was booked into jail for first degree murder. MCSO booking number T835700.

Melissa Soliz
Public Affairs Bureau

UPDATE: May 4, 2023

Since Saturday, April 29, 2023, Phoenix homicide investigators have worked tirelessly on the case involving the murder of Lauren Heike. During the course of the investigation, collection of evidence and processing of the crime scene, evidence was gathered which lead to the arrest of a man in his early 20's in connection to the case. The man was arrested at an apartment complex in the area of 17200 N. Scottsdale Road around 6:30 Thursday night, May 4.

The man in custody is the man in the surveillance video which police released to the public earlier this week. We appreciate the communities help in calling in tips and information regarding our investigation and the outpouring of support shown for the Heike family and affected community.

The man in custody is being interviewed by detectives and will be booked into the Maricopa County Jail.

Sergeant Melissa Soliz
Public Affairs Bureau

UPDATE: May 3, 2023

Phoenix homicide investigators learned Lauren Heike was hiking a trail near 65th Street East Libby Street on Friday April 28, 2023 when she was the victim of an attack and died from her injuries. Her

body was discovered on Saturday April 29th. Detectives continue to work every possible lead in this case. The community is asked to continue to call in with any information that may have been suspicious before, during, and after the murder. Attached are five photographs of Lauren that were provided by the family. A Silent Witness bulletin is also attached with a still photograph of a person believed to be the suspect in this case. While detectives consider this person a suspect, every lead and all possibilities are being explored. This photograph was taken from a short surveillance video clip that was provided to the media yesterday.

We are asking the community to contact the Phoenix Police Department, or Silent Witness (480-WITNESS or 480-TESTIGO for Spanish) if they recognize this person.

*Sergeant Melissa Soliz
Public Affairs Bureau*

UPDATE: May 2, 2023

Phoenix homicide investigators have been working tirelessly on the case involving the murder of 29-year-old Lauren Heike, who was found dead in a desert area near 6500 East Libby Street on Saturday April 29, 2023. While methodically going through evidence, investigators were able to locate a short surveillance video clip of a person of interest. This person is described as having a dark complexion who was near the area of the crime. Detectives believe this person may have information related to the case.

We are asking the community to contact the Phoenix Police Department, or Silent Witness (480-WITNESS or 480-TESTIGO for Spanish) if they recognize this person.

The video clip is attached.

*Sergeant Melissa Soliz
Public Affairs Bureau*

Homicide Investigation

(May 1, 2023) Homicide investigators are looking into the death of a Phoenix woman who was found fatally injured in the desert area near 6500 East Libby Street over the weekend.

On Saturday, April 29, 2023 just after 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a call of an injured person in the desert area near 6500 East Libby Street. A woman identified as 29-year-old Lauren Heike was pronounced deceased on scene by the fire department. Heike was found to have trauma to her body.

Detectives responded to take over the investigation. The suspect(s) remain outstanding. Details about what led up to this incident are still under investigation. This remains an ongoing investigation. Anyone with information can contact the Phoenix Police Department, or Silent Witness (480-WITNESS or 480-TESTIGO for Spanish).

The safety of our community is our top priority. We would like to remind everyone to be aware of your surroundings. If a hike or walk is in your plans, do so with a partner. If you see something suspicious call police and be a good witness.

*Sergeant Melissa Soliz
Public Affairs Bureau*

